Construction of budget hotels

*130. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways propose to construct budget hotels in public private partnership mode;

(b) if so, the details thereof, indicating the hotels that would be built on the ECoR system; and

(c) how far the Railways would benefit financially from this collaboration?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) to (c) In order to meet the requirement of the passengers, this Ministry has decided to set up one hundered Budget Hotels all over the Indian Railways network. Out of these, 4 Budget Hotels are within the jurisdiction of East Coast Railways *viz.* Bhubaneshwar, Puri, Cuttack and Vishakhapattanam, The hotels will be set up on public private partnership by Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) in the vicinity of the Railway Stations. By licensing unused railway land for Budget Hotels through IRCTC for a limited period, Railways may generate more revenue in the form of fixed land license fee and also by sharing a part of revenue generated from the project.

Diarrhoea deaths

*131. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 1.8 million children across the world die of diarrhoea annually, apart from fifty other diseases estimated to be caused by lack of proper sanitation, affecting over 80 per cent of the population;

(b) if so, what steps Government has taken, so far, to control diseases caused by water and sanitation defects;

(c) whether it is also a fact that about ten States in the country have not adopted the Manual Scavengers and Construction of Dry Latrines (Prohibition) Act; and

(d) if so, what concrete steps Government proposed to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS): (a) Yes, Sir, According to an article entitled "G-8 nations must lead efforts to combat global water and sanitation crisis; UN report", published in UN News service Newsletter dated 19.11.2007, each year 1.8 million children die from diarrhoea that could be prevented with access to clean water and a toilet.

(b) National Institute of Communicable Disease (NICD), Government of India has initiated an Integrated Disease Surveillance Project (IDSP) in November, 2004, to strengthen surveillance activities and to promote early detection of outbreak and to institute appropriate action for prevention and control of communicable diseases including Aute Diarrhoeal diseases (ADD) IDSP is being impiemented in phased manner to cover 32 States/UTs, with NICD as the nodal agency for capacity building and supervision of the programme.

(c) So far, the Act of 1993 has been adopted by 20 States and all UTs. 5 States Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland and Sikkim have reported that there are no dry latrines or they are scavengers free, 2 States of Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh have enacted their own Act. The State of Jammu and Kashmir is yet to adopt the Act.

(d) The State Government of Jammu and Kashmir have been impressed upon time and again to adopt the Act.

Demand and supply of 'Dals'

*132. SHRI HARISH RAWAT:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the expected demand and supply of different types of Dals in the country during the next three years; and

(b) what steps Government is taking to ensure that there would be no shortage of these Dals required by the poorest people in the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Table below gives the projected demand and supply (production) of total pulses for the years 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10:

(*Million Tonnes*)

Year	Projected Demand	Projected Production
2007-08	16.77	13.61
2008-09	17.51	13.65
2009-10	18.29	13.68

Pulse-wise data on demand and supply are not available.

The gap between demand and supply is met through imports. In order to increase the production of pulses and reduce import dependence, an Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM) is under implementation with effect from April, 2004 in the country *inter-alia*, to promote production of pulses. Recently, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme "National Food Security Mission" has been launched in the country from 2007-08 for increasing the production of pulses by 2 million tonnes by the end of the Eleventh Plan, *i.e.*, by 2011-12 through area expansion and productivity enhancement in targeted districts.

Increasing the productivity of vegetables

*133. SHRI MAHMOOD A. MADANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government is taking to increase the productivity of potato, onion, tomato, etc. to reduce the cost of production and increase the supply; and

(b) whether Government would ensure that there would be no more shortage of these food items round the year all over the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) The Centrally Sponsored Schemes being implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture, namely